



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

South Carolina Board of Nursing

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ADVISORY OPINION # 23

Formulated: July 28, 1988

Revised: May 2014, March 2011, July 2007, May 2006, May 2003, February 2001, July 1993

Reviewed: July 2005, July 1998, May 1997, May 1993

Question: Is it within the role and scope of responsibilities of the registered nurse (RN) to perform endotracheal intubation and/or insertion of a laryngeal mask airway in an emergency situation?

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina acknowledges that emergency endotracheal intubation and/or insertion of a laryngeal mask airway is within the role and scope of responsibilities of the RN and requires special education and training. Recognizing these responsibilities are an expanded role for the RN. Written appropriate policies, procedures, and protocols should be developed which specify required special education and training. This special education and training should include documented safety practices and other didactic material as well as clinical skill competency components. The written policies, procedures, and protocols should specify patient situations whereby the RN is authorized to perform endotracheal intubation and/or insertion of a laryngeal mask airway.

This statement is an advisory opinion of the Board of Nursing as to what constitutes competent and safe nursing practice.